



RANGEL REPORTS

From Washington to New York

September 2001

2354 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC

RANGEL BRINGS AID TO TERROR VICTIMS

Dear Friend:

Words are inadequate to express the emotions we have all experienced since the tragic loss of life from the attacks by terrorists upon the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001, a day that will be forever in our memories. I have heard from so many people in our community who have suffered personal loss or who share the pain of those who have. My sympathy and prayers go out to all of you.

It has been an overwhelming and wrenching experience for me to visit the site and see firsthand the terrible destruction. I share the anguish of the families of the missing. They have my commitment to do all that is humanly possible to help.

I have joined with Congressional leadership and the White House to shape and pass legislation to provide \$40 billion to pay for our national response to the terrorist bombings. I have worked closely with Senators Clinton and Schumer and my colleagues in the New York Congressional delegation to insure that New York City and State receive the resources we need to continue the rescue and recovery efforts and to assist the families of the victims. In addition, as the Ranking Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee, I have cosponsored a bipartisan tax relief package for the grieving families.

The Congress has also passed a resolution giving the President the authority to act as necessary in a military retaliation. We are informed that initially fifty thousand Reservists will be called up to augment our Armed Forces. Many more may be called to active duty.

Be assured that as a nation we will vigorously retaliate and do our utmost to punish those who attacked us and to bring the murderers to justice. We will show that despite the blow dealt to us, our democracy remains strong and secure.

We must be careful, however, in our response, to act consistently with our democratic principles. We must retaliate, but only after we have identified the perpetrators with the evidence required for certainty, and with the knowledge that our response is sufficiently targeted to avoid taking innocent lives.

Similarly, in our anger over these despicable acts of terrorism, we must not descend to similar levels of hatred and succumb to feelings or acts of prejudice against all Arabs or the Islamic faith.

I have faith that with the help of God we, as a community and a nation, will overcome.

Sincerely,

Charles B. Rangel

New York to Get Big Share of \$20 Billion U.S. Recovery Fund

September 11, 2001



Responding to the tragedies in New York, the Pentagon in Northern Virginia, and Pennsylvania, Congress has voted to provide \$40 billion in emergency assistance. Additional monies may be appropriated later. The funds are expected to be equally divided between military and non-military purposes.

At least \$20 billion will be used to respond to the emergency needs including rescue operations and rebuilding in the stricken areas, with most of the amount coming to New York, which suffered the greatest losses.

It was at the request of the New York Congressional Delegation, which I chair, that the original package of \$20 billion was doubled so as to provide a substantial allocation of \$20 billion for non-military purposes. When the Delegation met with President Bush, he responded favorably to our request for the additional funding.

Among the purposes for which the funds will be used are to reimburse city, state and federal agencies for search and rescue operations, to provide benefits for victims and their families, and to provide assistance to hospitals, utilities, businesses other providers of necessary services.



(left to right) Representatives Rangel and Nadler, President Bush, Senators Clinton and Schumer, and Mayor Giuliani, visited the Twin Towers disaster site. "When an outsider treads on us, we come together like a family," said Rangel.

Check out my newly revamped Web Site for all the latest on my legislative agenda and the constituent services available to you through my Congressional office.: <http://www.house.gov/rangel/>

DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

If you are a victim of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, a variety of areas of assistance is available to you:

Financial Assistance for Affected Individuals and Families

▲ **Individuals who have been impacted through injury, unemployment, a missing or deceased family member, or in some other capacity** as a result of the disaster should contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to register as a terrorism victim at 1-800-462-9029 (TTY 1-800-462-7585). Once registered, you may apply for FEMA benefits. These include:

Mortgage and Rental Assistance—Where an individual or family cannot make a rent or mortgage payment because of the disaster and they are facing eviction or a foreclosure notice, FEMA may be able to provide cash assistance.

Individual and Family Grants—Grants can be made to eligible individuals and families who cannot meet their necessary expenses (including funeral expenses). The grants may be as high as \$14,000, but usually range from \$2,000 to \$4,000.

Small Business Administration Disaster Loans—The SBA will make subsidized loans to eligible businesses to repair or replace property inventory and supplies. Affected businesses should contact the New York State assistance number- 1-800-I LOVE NY.

▲ **For people that were injured or have a missing or deceased family member as a result of the attacks, NY Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Crime Victims may be able to provide you with funds as well:** After contacting FEMA, contact the NY DOJ at 1-800-247-8035 (if you are unable to reach the NY DOJ, please try the US DOJ at 1-800-331-0075). Victims of the World Trade Center incident are eligible to apply for expense reimbursement for expenses incurred as a result of the crime. These expenses can include, medical expenses not covered by insurance (including counseling), funeral expenses, and lost earnings or support. Please note that

those individuals who are seeking support solely due to the loss of their job do not need to contact the Department of Justice.

▲ **Unemployment insurance, including people not typically covered**, is available for those that have lost their job as a result of the disaster. Please contact the NY Department of Labor at 1-888-209-8124.

▲ **Workers Compensation** is available for eligible people. Please contact Ken Hamlett at 212-337-2033 or Howard Wallace at 212-337-2058 to apply.

▲ **Social Security survivor benefits** will be payable starting in September. The Social Security Administration will operate under its emergency procedures. Proof of death can be established by various means including airplane manifests, lists of employees supplied by employers or other statements that put the worker at the scene of the tragedy. The SSA can be reached 1-800-772-1213.

▲ **Federal Housing Administration** has issued a 90 day moratorium on foreclosures of any FHA insured loans.

▲ **Any Medicare or Medicaid recipient** having trouble getting needed health care services can call 1-800-331-7767 for assistance.

Emotional & Psychological Support Available

In coping with the short and long term effects of the terrorist's attacks, it may be helpful for you and the members of your family to speak with a counselor in person or over the phone. A number of area hospitals and agencies are providing support:

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| St. Vincent's Hospital | 212-604-8220 |
| Metropolitan Hospital Center | 212-423-6262 |
| Lincoln Medical & Mental Health Center.... | 718-579-5000 |
| Department of Health & Human Services.... | 212-442-5000 |
| Referrals to mental health groups..... | 212-995-5824 |

Locating Family & Friends

NYC Missing Persons Hotline: 866-856-4167

NYC Area Hospitals

- Beth Israel Medical Center:** 1-888-455-0338
- Cabrini Medical Center:** 212-995-6000
- Hospital for Joint Diseases:** 1-888-453-3627
- Hospital For Special Surgery:** 212-606-1000
- Lenox Hill Hospital:** 212-434-2000
- NYU Downtown (Beekman):** 1-888-698-3362
- NYU Medical Center:** 212-263-7300
- Cornell Medical Center:** 212-746-5454
- St. Vincent's Hospital:** 1-888-478-4302
- Bellevue Hospital:** 212-562-4141
- Metropolitan Hospital:** 212-604-7285

For Victim Identification, NY Bureau of Labs (Medical Examiner):

212-447-2998 or go to NYU Medical Center, 550 First Ave., Farkas Auditorium

Emergency Information

NYC Government: 212-560-2730
NYC Police: 212-741-4626; 866-856-4167

Tax Refund to Victims' Families

Families of victims of the terrorist attacks will benefit from a tax relief package supported by Congressman Charles Rangel and passed by the House of Representatives.

Under the victims' tax relief package, the estates or families of persons killed in the attacks on the World Trade Center and other facilities will be refunded all federal taxes paid by the victims in 2000 and 2001. Year 2000 refunds may be filed for immediately, and those for 2001, next year. The bill provides substantially the same tax benefits granted to families of soldiers, sailors, and civilian government employees killed in war zones or in terrorist attacks abroad.

The bill was cosponsored by Congressman Rangel, senior Democrat on the Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over tax issues. The legislation also substantially reduces victims' estate tax liability.

Congress Authorizes Use of Force

Congress overwhelmingly passed a resolution authorizing President Bush to use force against those responsible for the September 11 terrorist attacks.

The use-of-force resolution represented the latest step in the nation's movement towards military action in response to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The measure authorizes the President "to use all necessary and appropriate force against those nations, organizations, or persons he determines planned, authorized, committed, or aided the terrorist attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001, or harbored such organizations or persons, in order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States by such nations, organizations or persons."

The President has approved an order to call up to 50,000 military Reservists to active duty. Each service has reviewed its missions and thus far identified personnel requirement up to 35,000 Reservists as follows: Army, 10,000; Air Force, 13,000; Navy, 3,000; Marines, 7,500; and Coast Guard, 2,000. These Reservists will provide domestic security, port operations, medical, engineering, military operations support, and homeland defense.

Capitol-Flown Flags for Terrorist Victims



As a tribute and show of support for those affected by the tragedy of September 11, the Terrorist Victims Flag Memorial Resolution of 2001, was recently passed in the House. This legislation would provide a Capitol-flown flag to surviving victims and the families of the deceased.

For more information on how you can obtain a flag, please contact our Washington office at (202) 225-4365.

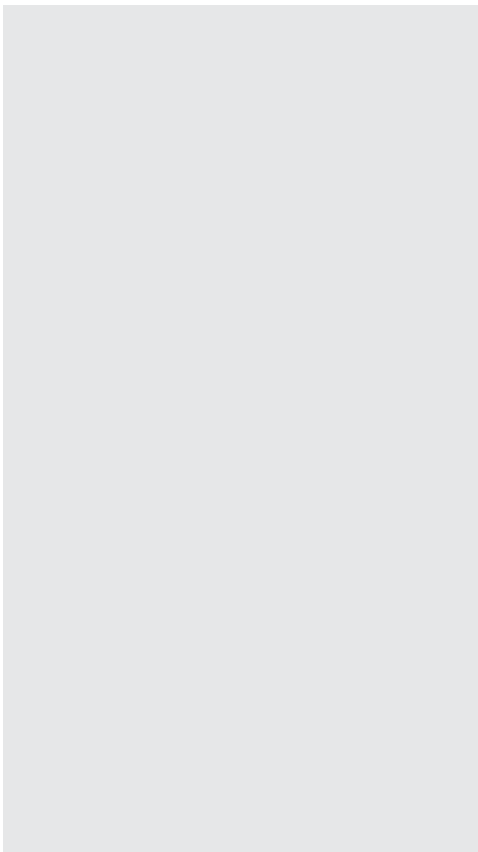
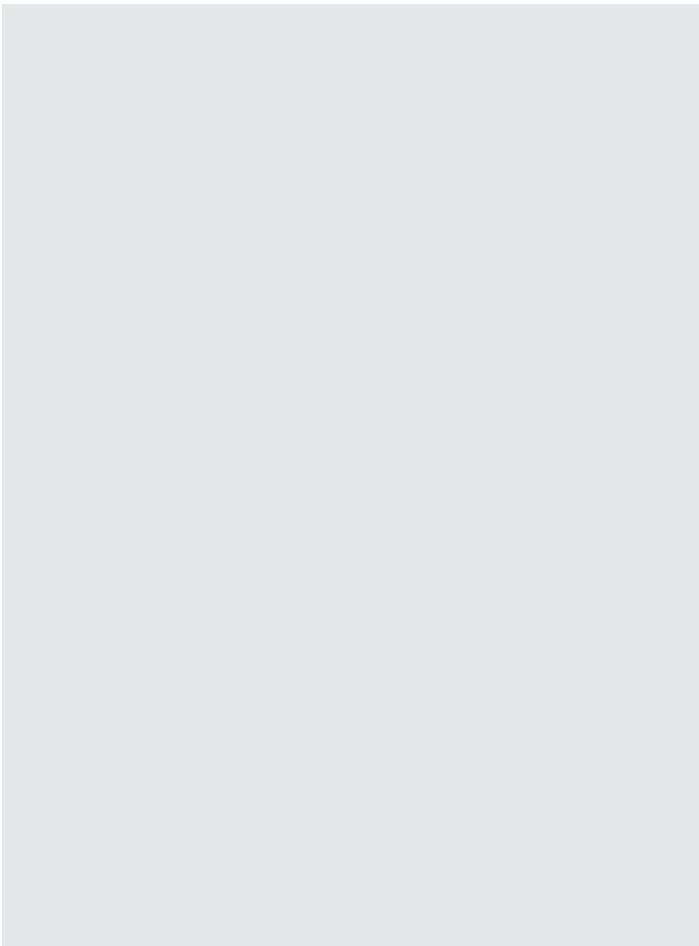
Estimado Amigo:

Sinceramente,



Mire mi sitio de Internet nuevamente renovado para todo lo más nuevo sobre mi agenda legislativa y los servicios disponibles para los constituyentes a través de mi oficina en el Congreso.

<http://www.house.gov/rangel/>



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